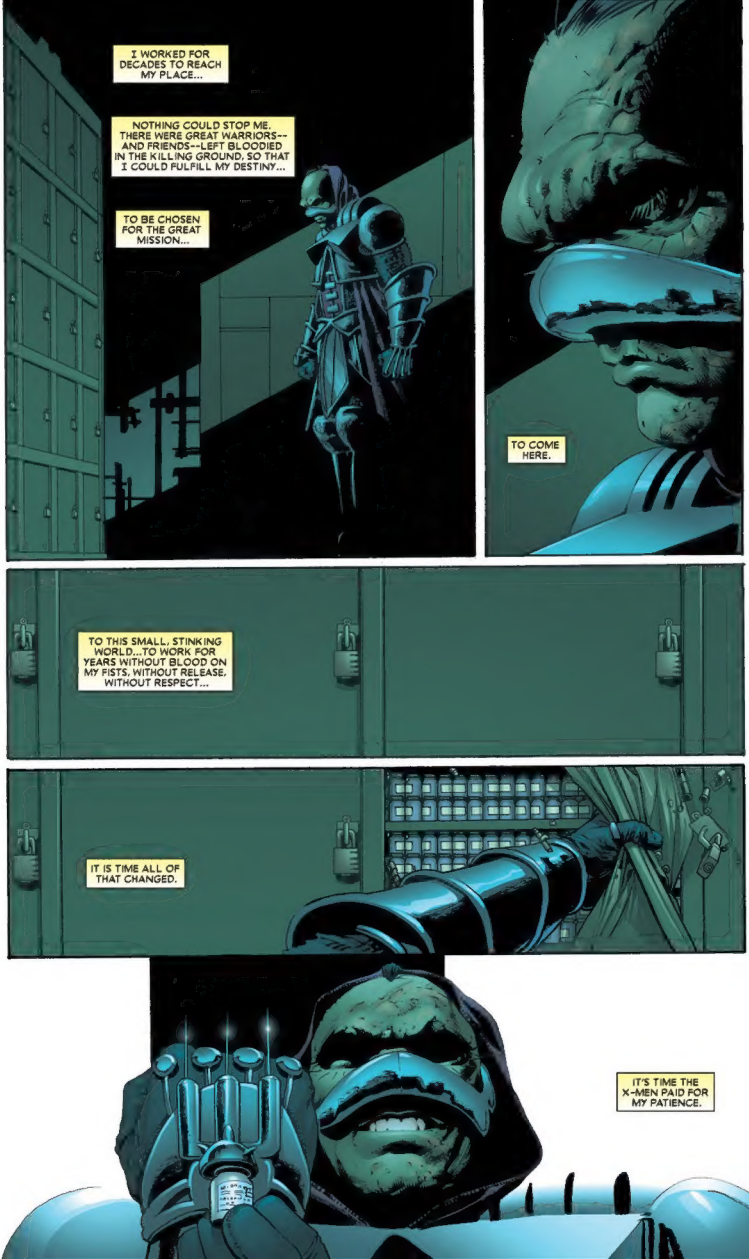
MARVEL
PSR 4
WHEDON
CASSADAY
ASTONISHING
X-MEN

I HAVE COME SO FAR.


I WORKED FOR DECADES TO REACH MY PLACE...
NOTHING COULD STOP ME. THERE WERE GREAT WARRIORS--AND FRIENDS--LEFT BLOODIED IN THE KILLING GROUND, SO THAT I COULD FULFILL MY DESTINY...
TO BE CHOSEN FOR THE GREAT MISSION...
TO COME HERE.
TO THIS SMALL, STINKING WORLD...TO WORK FOR YEARS WITHOUT BLOOD ON MY FISTS, WITHOUT RELEASE, WITHOUT RESPECT...
IT IS TIME ALL OF THAT CHANGED.
IT'S TIME THE X-MEN PAID FOR MY PATIENCE.

JET'S PREPPED.
THE OTHERS ARE COMING.
YOU DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING TO--
OF COURSE NOT. BENETECH MIGHT BE USING A MUTANT FOR TISSUE SAMPLES. THAT'S ALL. I DIDN'T SPECIFY.
BECAUSE WE PROBABLY WON'T FIND ANYTHING CONCLUSIVE.
LIKE A WARM BODY?
GOOD TO GO.
LET'S BRING ON SOME HURT.

THIS IS RECON, LOGAN. UNTIL WE KNOW WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH WE'RE JUST LOOKING.
WE KNOW WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH, SUMMERS.
ANIMALS.
REPENT
KITTY'S ON POINT.

THEY'VE GOT THE DELUXE DETECTION PACKAGE IN THERE, SO YOU'LL WANT TO START FROM BELOW.
SECURITY MAINFRAME SHOULD BE HOUSED IN THE BASEMENT. THINK YOU CAN DISABLE IT WITHOUT TRIPPING ANYTHING?
IT'S DONE.
WHEN DO I GET TO DISABLE SOMETHING?
OH, SHEATHE IT, WILL YOU?
INSPIRING COSTUMES NOTWITHSTANDING, WE'RE NOT HEROES TONIGHT.

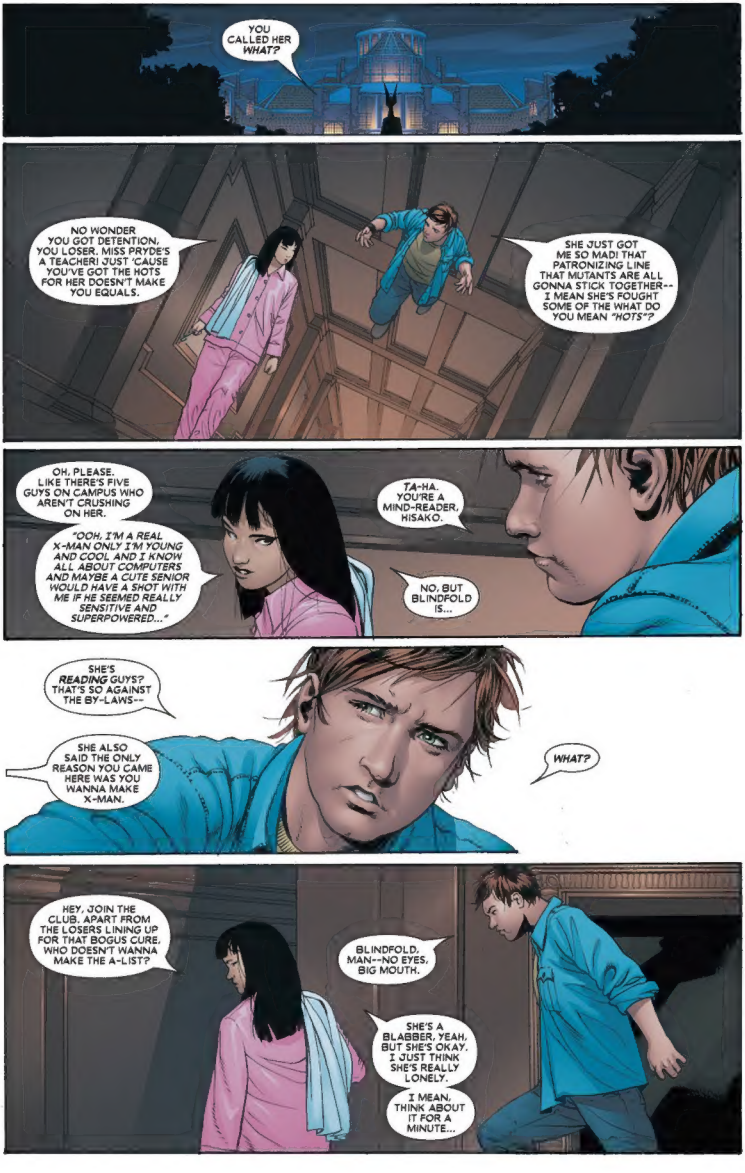
"LET'S TRY TO BE SUBTLE FOR ONCE."

PLACE IS A BIT OF A MAZE, BUT THE MAIN RESEARCH CENTER IS DEFINITELY UP TOP.

GOD. BUT THAT IS UNNERVING.
WRIGGLE LIKE THAT NEXT TIME AND I'LL LOSE MY GRIP IN THE MIDDLE OF A WALL. YOU'LL FUSE MOLECULES.
AS DEATHS GO, IT'S NOT THE FUNNEST.

THREE GUARDS ON THIS FLOOR.
THEY CAME OVER ALL SLEEPY JUST NOW.

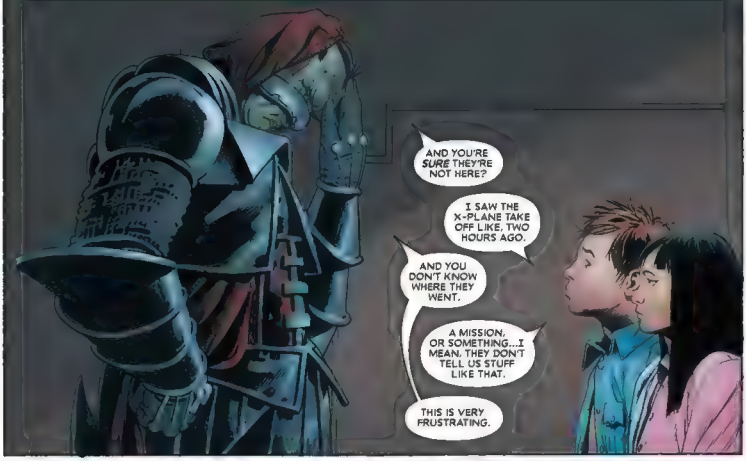
TEAMS.
WE WORK EVERY FLOOR.


YOU CALLED HER WHAT?
NO WONDER YOU GOT DETENTION, YOU LOSER. MISS PRYDE'S A TEACHER! JUST 'CAUSE YOU'VE GOT THE HOTS FOR HER DOESN'T MAKE YOU EQUALS.
SHE JUST GOT ME SO MAD! THAT PATRONIZING LINE THAT MUTANTS ARE ALL GONNA STICK TOGETHER-- I MEAN SHE'S FOUGHT SOME OF THE WHAT DO YOU MEAN "HOTS"?
OH, PLEASE. LIKE THERE'S FIVE GUYS ON CAMPUS WHO AREN'T CRUSHING ON HER.
"OOH, I'M A REAL X-MAN ONLY I'M YOUNG AND COOL AND I KNOW ALL ABOUT COMPUTERS AND MAYBE A CUTE SENIOR WOULD HAVE A SHOT WITH ME IF HE SEEMED REALLY SENSITIVE AND SUPERPOWERED..."
TA-HA. YOU'RE A MIND-READER, HISAKO.
NO, BUT BLINDFOLD IS...
SHE'S READING GUYS? THAT'S SO AGAINST THE BY-LAWS--
SHE ALSO SAID THE ONLY REASON YOU CAME HERE WAS YOU WANNA MAKE X-MAN.
WHAT?
HEY, JOIN THE CLUB. APART FROM THE LOSERS LINING UP FOR THAT BOGUS CURE, WHO DOESN'T WANNA MAKE THE A-LIST?
BLINDFOLD, MAN--NO EYES, BIG MOUTH.
SHE'S A BLABBER, YEAH, BUT SHE'S OKAY. I JUST THINK SHE'S REALLY LONELY.
I MEAN, THINK ABOUT IT FOR A MINUTE...

MINUTE'S UP.
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO, SCOTT? PRETEND I DON'T FEEL YOUR HEART RACE WHEN YOU THINK OF JEAN?
SHE'S A PART OF ME, EMMA. COMES WITH THE PACKAGE, WHICH YOU *KNOW*.
THE WOMAN WAS NO GOOD FOR YOU.
ATTACKING HER IS NEVER GONNA--
RIGHT. RIGHT. BASE DEFILEMENT. JEAN GREY IS A SACRED COW.
AT LEAST WE AGREE ON *HALF* OF THAT.

OKAY, THIS IS WEIRD.
IT'S METAL, LOCKHEED. AND I CAN'T FIND THE END.
THERE'S NO SUB-BASEMENT-- IT JUST GOES DOWN.
YOU STAY HERE AND DON'T EAT ANYONE.
I'M GONNA CHECK IT OUT.
"HOPE."
THAT'S WHAT THEY'RE CALLING THE CURE NOW. *"HOPE."* IT WAS ON THE NEWS.
CATCHY, EH?

WHAT'RE YOU HOPING FOR?
LOSE THE FUR... NICE GIRL, COUPLE OF KIDS AND A TEACHING JOB SOMEWHERE THAT DOESN'T GET BLOWN UP TOO OFTEN?
YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY TALKING ME OUT OF IT HERE, LOGAN.
YOU THINK I DON'T GET IT?
I'D BE MARRIED TODAY, THINGS HAD GONE MY WAY. NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT.
IT'S THE PART WHERE YOU SIT ON THE COUCH WITH TH' FAMILY AND WATCH EVERY MUTANT ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH GET LINED UP...
GET A LITTLE *"HOPE"* OR GET A LOT DEAD.
TELL YOUR KIDS HOW PROUD YOU ARE TO HAVE HELPED START THAT OFF...ASSUMING THEY'RE NOT MUTIES THEMSEL--
HOLD IT.
YOU CATCH THAT SCENT?
FEMALE.
DEAD.
OKAY.
DEFINITELY WEIRD.


AND YOU'RE *SURE* THEY'RE NOT HERE?
I SAW THE X-PLANE TAKE OFF LIKE, TWO HOURS AGO.
AND YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY WENT.
A MISSION. OR SOMETHING...I MEAN, THEY DON'T TELL US STUFF LIKE THAT.
THIS IS VERY FRUSTRATING.

DID YOU WANNA LEAVE THEM A MESSAGE, OR...
OH GOD. THAT'S SO STUPID...
WE'RE NOT X-MEN. WE'RE JUST KIDS AND UM...YOU COULD COME BACK...

YOU TWO ARE MUTANTS.
BUT WE'RE NOT. LIKE, COOL ONES OR ANYTHING...
WING..
YOU'VE HELPED ME. YOU HAVE MY THANKS FOR THAT.

AND YES.
I *WILL* LEAVE THE X-MEN A MESSAGE

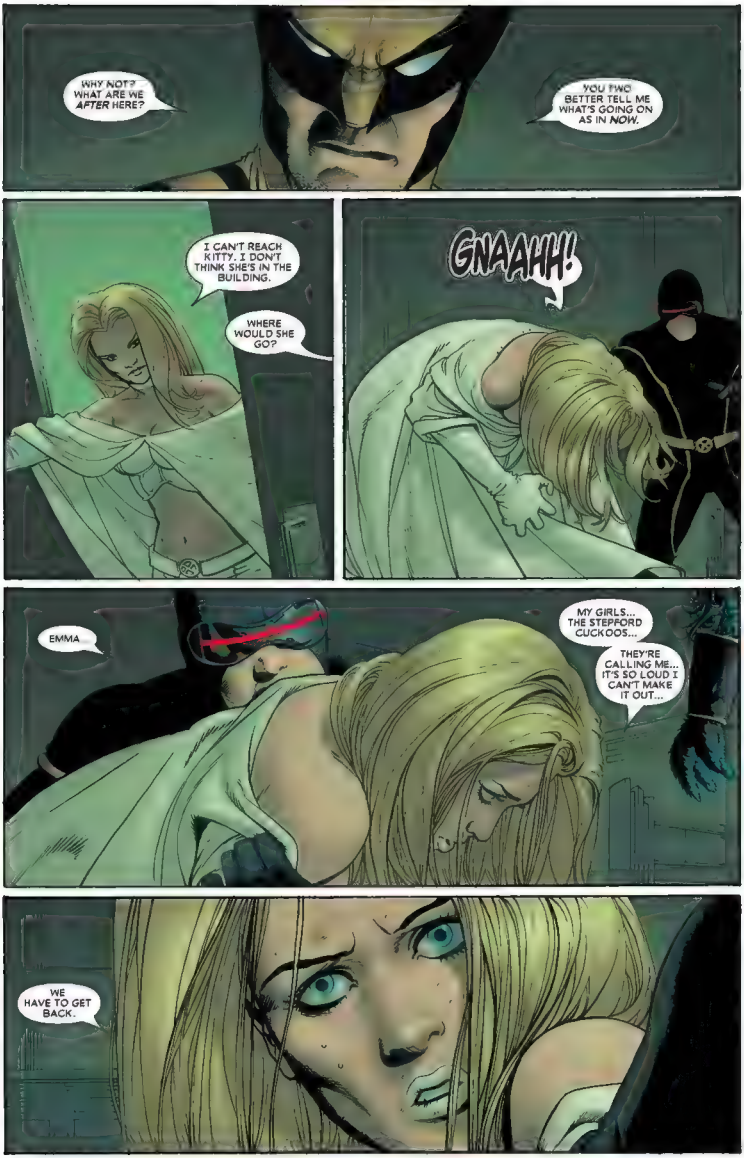
WING...

GET OUT!
CONGRATULATIONS.
YOU STARTLED ME
NOW BOY.

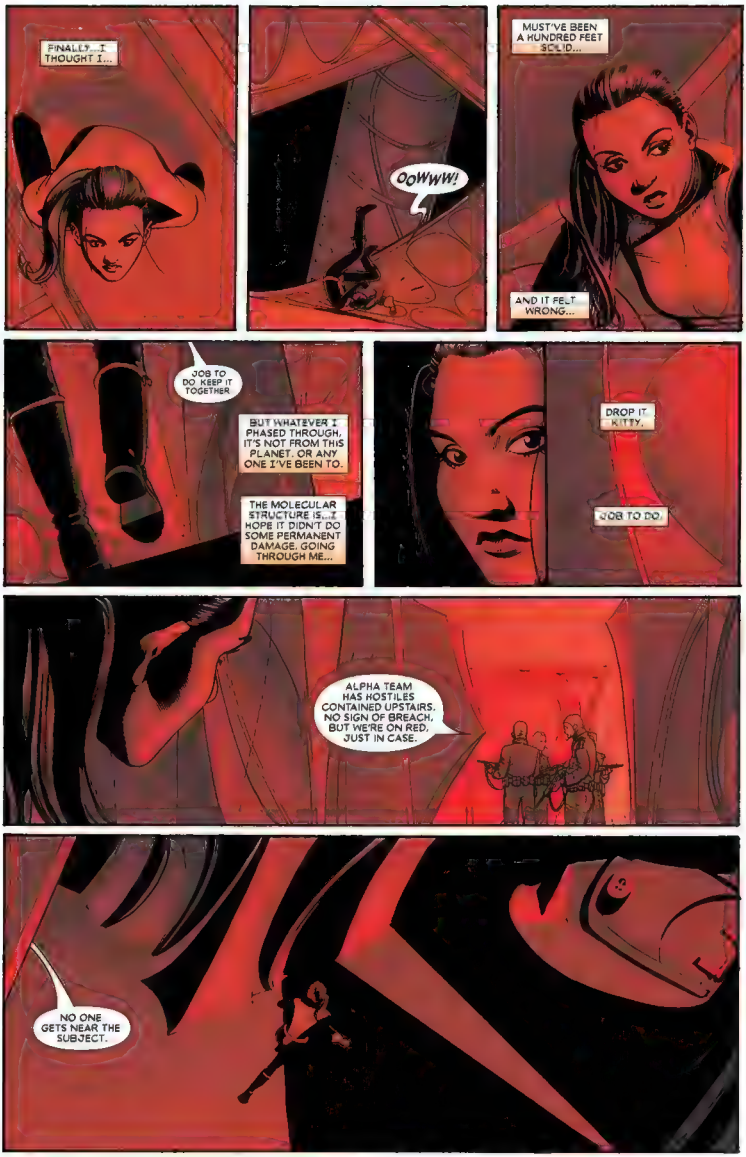
CRASH
HISAKO...
WHAT AM I DOING, I CAN'T JUST LEAVE HER THERE...
I WAS TALKING TO YOU, BOY.

FFFT
GNNAAH!
NOW YOU WILL GIVE THEM MY MESSAGE.
THAT THE MUTANT ABOMINATION WILL *NEVER* BE A THREAT TO THE BREAKWORLD.
THAT *MAN* WAS NOT *MEANT* TO FLY.
WHO IS IT?

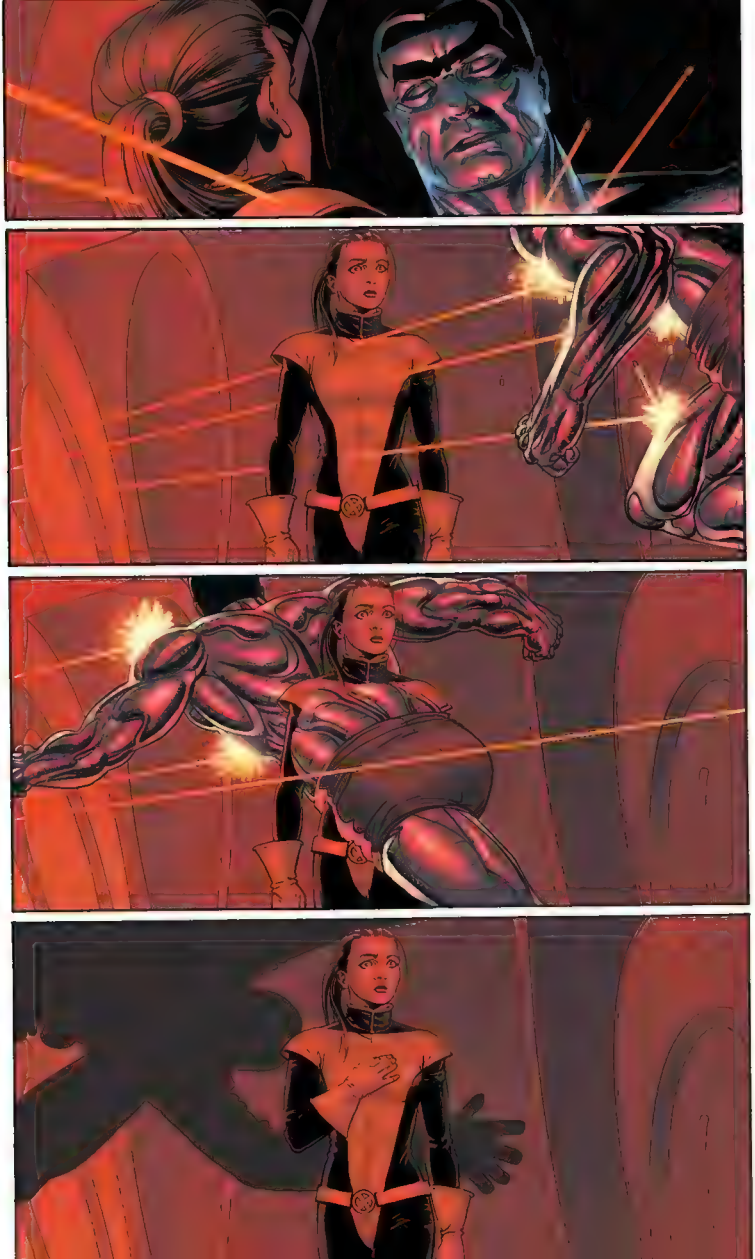
WE DON'T KNOW HER.
STRIATIONS ON HER WRISTS WOULD INDICATE SHE TOOK HER OWN LIFE.
OR SOMEONE MADE IT LOOK LIKE SHE DID...
FRANKLY, I DON'T CARE. WHETHER OR NOT THEY HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH HER DEATH...
...THIS IS SICKENING.
IT'S ALL HAPPENING HERE, PEOPLE. THE CURE, THESE LITTLE EXPERIMENTS.
ONE WELL-AIMED MISSILE FROM THE JET AND WE ALL SLEEP EASY.
WE CAN'T JUST TORCH BENETECH, LOGAN. WE STILL DON'T KNOW EVERYTHING.
THIS CAN'T BE THE ONLY BODY.


WHY NOT? WHAT ARE WE *AFTER* HERE?
YOU TWO BETTER TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON AS IN *NOW*.
I CAN'T REACH KITTY. I DON'T THINK SHE'S IN THE BUILDING.
WHERE WOULD SHE GO?
GNAAHH!
EMMA...
MY GIRLS... THE STEPFORD CUCKOOS...
THEY'RE CALLING ME... IT'S SO LOUD I CAN'T MAKE IT OUT...
WE HAVE TO GET BACK.

TAK
TAK
TAK
TAK
TAK
TAK
TAK
SCOTT
AGHK... I'M JUST TAGGED...
NNNAHH... X-MEN, SOUND... SOUND OFF...
MAKE A MOVE.
MAKE JUST ONE MOVE.


FINALLY... I THOUGHT I...
OOWWW!
MUST'VE BEEN A HUNDRED FEET SOLID...
AND IT FELT WRONG...
JOB TO DO. KEEP IT TOGETHER
BUT WHATEVER I PHASED THROUGH, IT'S NOT FROM THIS PLANET. OR ANY ONE I'VE BEEN TO.
THE MOLECULAR STRUCTURE IS... I HOPE IT DIDN'T DO SOME PERMANENT DAMAGE, GOING THROUGH ME...
DROP IT, KITTY.
JOB TO DO.
ALPHA TEAM HAS HOSTILES CONTAINED UPSTAIRS. NO SIGN OF BREACH, BUT WE'RE ON RED, JUST IN CASE.
NO ONE GETS NEAR THE SUBJECT.

ALIEN OR NO, THERE'S NOT A LOCK I CAN'T POP. .
AND IF THE "CONTAINED HOSTILES" MEANS THE REST OF THE X-MEN...IT'S UP TO ME TO FIND THE TRUTH ABOUT THIS PLACE
EVEN THOUGH I'M NOT SURE I WANT TO.
WE HAVE A HOSTILE!
DROP HER! DROP HER!
KPOW!
KLING



PETER...
STOP! PETER...

PLEASE STOP...
YOU'LL KILL THEM...
KATYA?
OH, GOD...

FINALLY...
GOD...
AM I--GOD, PLEASE...
...AM I FINALLY DEAD?

Megan
Empire